

# The Providence Sunday Journal.

VOL. XVIII. NO. 8. THE PROVIDENCE SUNDAY JOURNAL, AUGUST 24, 1902. EIGHTEEN PAGES. SINGLE COPIES FIVE CENTS.

## BRIEF BUT STRENUOUS.

President Roosevelt's Few Hours in This City Filled with Activity and Fraught with Pleasure.

## A CORDIAL WELCOME FOR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE.

It Began at the State Line, Was Continued in the Pawtuxet Valley, Extended to This City and Ended at Newport.

## RECEPTIONS, DRIVES AND HEARTY GREETINGS EVERYWHERE.

Crowds Thronged the Streets and Packed Exchange Place. Eager to See the Head of the Nation—His Appearance Cheered Enthusiastically All Along the Line—Flags Floated in the Breeze in All Sections of the City.—The People Pleased with the President's Personality.—After the Celebration Was All Over Here He Sailed Down the Bay, Was Entertained at the Home of Senator Aldrich at Warwick Neck and Then Went on to Newport, Where He is the Guest of Winthrop Astor Chandler, at the Christening of Whose Child He Will be Present To-day, and Then Leave for Boston.

In the 1 hour and 30 minutes he spent in Providence yesterday as guest of the State and city, President Roosevelt had an experience that must have even to an eminent advocate of strenuousness appreciate the quiet and rest of the pulchritudinous yacht on which he left the city for Warwick Neck as the United States Senator Nelson W. Aldrich. From the moment he stepped from the rear platform of his special train of sleeping cars until the detail from Battery A, Light Artillery, fired the President's salute of 21 guns as the launch of the Waturus carried the President and his party to the yacht, lying off Fox Point, he was actively receiving, driving through lanes of cheering citizens, speaking and then driving again, he was hurried from the train to a carriage and driven to the new marble capital, where he received members of the State and City Government and found time to take an interest in the man that opened the door of his carriage. After the reception he was driven over a long route through the city, finally reaching the City Hall, where he gave an address, and then he was driven to the place where he embarked for the yacht.

Through it all he left a memory of a generous man with a kindly manner and a broad democracy. Brooding rules made by others for his protection, he stopped his carriage to shake hands with a workman, as when in front of the City Hall and the State House, he stepped from the carriage to the foot of the State House, he rose to reach the outstretched hand of a man wearing a jumper or to accept a proffered bouquet, as when in front of the City Hall, a boy and girl, aged 12 and 13 years, boldly making their way through the line of cavalry, half-timidly offered the bouquet they had prepared. His youth and his hearty smiling gracefulness, were the qualities most remarked by the great crowds that blocked the sidewalks of the downtown streets hours after the President had left the city.

Nothing could have been more complete than the arrangements composing the scheduled programme of the President's stay in this city, and no arrangements could have been better carried out. The start of the drive was made on the scheduled minute. The finish was made one minute ahead of the time agreed on. Every part of the day's movements was carried out at the time planned by the State officials with Acting Mayor Freeman. The police arrangements were admirable. The officers, detailed looked exceedingly well in their new military uniforms and white gloves. Chief Matthews had made excellent plans to handle the crowds. The President spoke in high admiration of the police and the police arrangements. A clear, bright, crisp, early autumn day favored the party. At the latter part of the drive a dark, sudden rain cloud came up and a few drops of rain fell. But they were only a very few and although some of the members of the party on the drive had the tops of their open carriages closed, the carriage of the President, with its four horses, remained open, and he continued to ride bow with uplifted hat whenever the crowds cheered as they almost everywhere along the line.

The President arrived in the city at 1:35, only three minutes behind his schedule. The anchor of the Waturus was raised at 1:40, the sailing signal, where he went with some of the members of his party, the State delegation in Congress, Gov. Kimball and from the Washington elm at Cambridge and remained until 7:30 o'clock, when he left on the yacht for Newport. There today the child of Mr. Astor Chandler, he is expected to leave the city on a special train to join his train at Boston at 2:30 o'clock to-day.

## EARLY MORNING SCENES.

Early in the morning the downtown streets began to assume a holiday ap-

pearance. The flags at almost every building on Westminster street below Cathedral square and on many of the buildings on Weybosset street showed fresh and clear in the bright sun and the crisp coolness of the autumn-tinged air made walking comfortable and relieved much of the distress that would have attended crowding on a hot day. The decorators were putting the finishing touches on some of the larger buildings and everywhere the Red, White and Blue was in sight. The big grandstand at the City Hall was an attraction that drew the attention of a considerable crowd as early as 7 o'clock. The decorators were add-

ing to bring in large numbers of passengers early in the morning. The stop of the presidential party at Pastime Park in the Pawtuxet Valley held in the Valley thousands who would otherwise have taken early cars into the city, although a good part of the Valley population seemed to have come in, after all. Crowds gathered at the Union Station, at the City Hall and at the State House, points where a good view of the President might be expected, and waited patiently to see the Chief Magistrate of the nation.

## WELCOMED AT STATE LINE.

The presidential train passed over the line into Rhode Island territory some-

was later changed to Oneco, the next station, on the Connecticut side. The train people had received no orders to stop at Oneco, so the station agent said, and the train was scheduled to pass that station at about 40 miles-an hour. Mr. Cannon jokingly inquired if the walking was good back to Greene and whether they could make it in time to catch the train, but the pedestrian exercise was not required, as a man was sent up the track to flag the special as a precautionary measure in case the engineer evinced symptoms of an intention to pass Oneco at full speed. The train stopped only a few moments and was

flags, and cheering. A majority of these spectators saw little more than a passing train, to all appearances much the same as any other train composed of parlor cars, but the symbolized idea of the presence of the headship of the nation was there. And the enthusiasm was rendered greater by the personality of the President. Not only Chief Executive of the nation, but Theodore Roosevelt, the American citizen and soldier, was there, passing over the rails toward Providence, and even if he was not personally visible they could at least watch the car within which he was resting.

## THE PRESIDENTIAL TRAIN.

It was not an ordinary train that came over the rails from Willimantic yesterday morning. A train of drawing room cars in itself is not an ordinary sight along that road, and to the throngs that gathered in the villages and along the tracks there were symbols that marked the train as the conveyance of someone of unusual distinction. An enormous floral horseshoe, presented to the President by the citizens of Hartford, adorned the front of the engine, and the knowledge that it was the President's train, combined with a head-on view of the big



THE PRESIDENT SPEAKING. Characteristic positions and gestures caught by camera during the speech at the City Hall.

ing a touch of color here and there and had made an exceedingly creditable showing. The body of the stand was covered with white, with a broad band of blue above it at the level of the flooring. Festooned national flags were placed at intervals on the front and the entire appearance of one of the largest grandstands ever built in the city was very evidently satisfactory to the self-constituted critics.

The chairs and settees for the body of the grandstand came from some of the city school houses and were delivered during the early morning and placed in position. They faced the centre of the stand and the elevated platform, where the President took his place in making his address. While on a lower level, they had little advantage, but the three rows of board seats built at the side of the stand in the form of bleachers.

Out in front of the stand carpenters were busy placing joists and the supports for the outer line to be established by the police. This barricade extended over the car tracks in front of the City Hall, the ends cutting off diagonally the foot of Westminster street on one side of the City Hall, and that of Fulton street on the other. It early stopped the running of cars on Exchange place, but this had been provided for by the Rhode Island Company, and conductors and motormen received their instructions as to where and when to run.

Some of the buildings down town were well covered with flags, and the display on some was lavish. The Board of Trade building, at the foot of Westminster street, in Market square, once the old public market, and also the City Hall, was handsomely decorated with bunting. The display at the Boston Store, The O'Gorman company, The Shepard Company and the Manufacturers' Outlet Company was also one to attract attention. The Swartz building on Weybosset street was also handsomely decorated and many others were well covered with the national colors. There seemed to be a fairly general desire to at least display flags, and Westminster street looked much as it appeared on the day the First Rhode Island, United States Volunteer Infantry, marched up it, on the return of the regiment from its services in the war with Spain.

## EMBARKING FOR WARWICK.—MRS. ALDRICH IS STANDING IN THE LAUNCH TO WELCOME HER DISTINGUISHED GUEST.

The cars from suburban points began

soon on its way again at full speed, which was not again slackened until the populous part of the Pawtuxet Valley was reached, where the first official stop in the State was made, for a brief speech by the President at Pastime Park.

The presidential train of five cars left Hartford on schedule time, 8 o'clock a. m. yesterday, and brief stops were made at Willimantic, Baltic and Plainfield, where President Roosevelt briefly addressed the crowds which had assembled to greet him.

At Willimantic there was a great crowd, and the President left the train, and, accompanied by Mayor Barrows and the members of the party, drove through some of the city's streets to the public square, where the President delivered his address.

At Baltic the train stopped for several minutes, and the President addressed the crowd, composed largely of employees of the Baltic Mills, from the rear platform of his car. At Plainfield the train stopped for water, and the crowd assembled there, calling for a speech. The President appeared again on the car platform and spoke briefly.

More time than had been intended was consumed in these stops, and when the train reached the Rhode Island line the loss of time amounted to some 12 or 14 minutes. Superintendent A. R. Whaley of the Worcester division of the Consolidated was aboard the train, to accompany the party while it remained in his division, and that most of the time was made up before this city was reached was due largely to his prompt and active oversight of the running arrangements. The presidential train was only three minutes late when it pulled into the Union Station.

ALONG THE ROUTE. All along the route the people had gathered in large numbers to watch the presidential train go by. At the smaller stations, cross roads and hamlets these crowds were not of any considerable size, but no matter how small the group, or the age of the persons composing it, men, women and children, all alike, manifested their enthusiasm by waving handkerchiefs and

locomotive with its floral emblem of good luck, was sufficient to awaken a desire to cheer on the part of most of the spectators.

## THE VALLEY'S GREETING.

People Gay in Holiday Attire Welcomed the Distinguished Guest. At the train's first stopping place in Rhode Island, at Pastime Park, Riverbank, there was a crowd of thousands of people and a tremendous cheer went up when the train slowed down and came to a stop with the rear platform open to the temporary stands which had been erected, leading from the railway embankment down to the grounds. As the President appeared at the rear door of his car to go to the grand stand, there was another mighty outburst of cheers and the band struck up, "Hail to the Chief."

There may on this footstool to-day be folks who are prouder than those who live in the Pawtuxet Valley, but they will be hard to find. Tradition has it that George Washington visited Coventry more than a century ago and not a few farm houses in the western part of the town have beds, precious heirlooms, in which the Father of His country is said to have slept. But yesterday a real, live President of the United States and as lively a President as it doubtless ever had, was the Valley's guest for fully 25 minutes and the Valleyites favored much above their fellows in other parts of the State.

From 9 o'clock, when the mills that started at last yesterday, began to close down, until the moment of the President's arrival at 10:35, there was a steady stream to Pastime Park from all parts of the Valley until more than an acre of the park was covered by a dense mass of expectant humanity, many of whom hardly believed that the President was indeed to come, and when the stands and places of honor assigned to the favored ones were all in place there were more than 15,000 people there and the greatest crowd of Valleyites ever seen since spindles began to hum in that thriving section of the State. The Union Cornet Band played for a half-hour before the train arrived, and

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